

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1 and 8-12 have been amended and claims 18 and 19 have been newly added. The title has been amended. The abstract has been replaced with a new abstract. The drawings have been amended.

The specification was objected to for lacking a descriptive title and having an abstract with claim language. The title and abstract have been amended, and withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to for Figs. 13-16 lacking the designation, "prior art." The drawings have been amended and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7-10 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato, U.S. Patent 5,754,340. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 are directed to an optical pickup lens. Claim 16 recites an optical pickup unit and an optical lens. Sato does not disclose an optical pickup lens or an optical pickup unit. Although Sato does disclose a lens, this lens is actually a camera lens, as is evidenced by, for example, col. 3, lines 18-20. Accordingly, Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 7-9, 11, 12, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Hori, U.S. Patent 6,215,604. This rejection is respectfully overcome.

Hori teaches three projections 48 integrally formed on the peripheral surface 44 at regular intervals. As evident from Fig. 4C, these projections are convex. Thus, Hori fails to teach or suggest that the mark of the lens is a line or a concave portion, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2-7 are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies.

Claim 8 recites "An optical pickup lens comprising a lens and a lens holder, wherein each of the lens and the lens holder has at least one mark in a direction of rotation based on an

optical axis of the lens as a center of rotation, one mark is provided on a position of a periphery of the lens, and at least eight marks are provided on positions of the lens holder which are adjacent to the periphery of the lens and the mark of the lens is a convex portion.” Hori fails to disclose at least eight marks provided on positions of the lens holder. At most, Hori discloses three trenches on the lens holder. Thus, the features of claim 8 are not taught or suggested by Hori.

The remaining claims are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies. Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 7-9 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Iwaki, U.S. Patent 6,144,500. This rejection is respectfully overcome.

Iwaki teaches a gate portion 4, which is a convex portion on the lens. This gate portion is received by recess 53. Only one gate portion is provided on the lens and only one recess is provided in the lens holder. Thus, Iwaki fails to teach or suggest a mark on the lens which is either a line or a concave portion, as recited in claim 1. Iwaki likewise fails to teach or suggest at least eight marks are provided on positions of the lens holder which are adjacent to the periphery of the lens, as recited in claim 8. Thus, Iwaki fails to teach or suggest the features of independent claims 1 or 8. The remaining claims are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies. Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 18 recites that at least eight marks are provided on positions of the periphery of the lens. None of the cited references teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, newly recited claim 18 should be allowed.

Claim 19 recites that at least one of the marks of the lens is discriminated from the other marks of the lens. This feature is not taught or suggested by any of the cited references. Accordingly, newly recited claim 19 should be allowed.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to

withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 51424-2000300.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Deborah S. Gladstein

Registration No.: 43,636
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
2000 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 778-1646

Attachments

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figs 13-16.

Attachment: Replacement sheets

REPLACEMENT SHEET